PROGRAM LIMITS INCREASED FOR FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS

BISMARCK – The Industrial Commission has increased the purchase price and income limits statewide for the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency's (NDHFA) Home Mortgage Finance Program (HMFP), better known as the "First-Time Homebuyer Program."

"Our first-time homebuyer program has made homeownership a reality for more than 25,400 North Dakota families," said Governor John Hoeven. "The North Dakota Housing Finance Agency's mortgage program has helped improve the economic stability for the state's low- to moderate- income homebuyers. With the agency's assistance, more families are realizing their dream of owning a home."

"Increased purchase price and income limits are something we can all be excited about, as increased homeownership opportunities means economic and social benefits for all of North Dakota," said Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson. "Homeownership encourages savings and investment. It promotes economic and civic responsibility, and is the primary means of wealth accumulation for most households."

"New homeowners will have more flexibility under the program with acquisition cost limits for new and previously occupied homes increased to \$189,600 for single-family homes," said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem. "Previous limits for existing single-family homes ranged from \$90,066 to \$119,409 depending on the location of the home. Limits for newly constructed single-family homes were \$150,000."

The commission's action adjusting the acquisition cost limits is in response to information provided by the NDHFA regarding the US Treasury Department's newly released average area purchase price safe harbor limits for Mortgage Revenue Bond (MRB) programs like the HMFP. The purchase limits were based on the Federal Housing Administration's (FHA) single-family loan limits established annually by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The HMFP's income limit increase is based on area median income, which is updated annually by HUD. The limits vary by family size and county. Increases ranged from \$200 to \$1,725.

"Homebuyers who have not owned a home during the past three years may be eligible for the first-time homebuyer program," said Pat Fricke, NDHFA executive director. "To determine eligibility or for more information on the HMFP, potential homebuyers should contact a local home loan lender."

The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Governor John Hoeven, as chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson, oversees the NDHFA. For more information about the NDHFA, contact the agency at (701) 328-8080, (800) 292-8621 or (800) 366-6888 (TTY). Information is also available online at www.ndhfa.org.



NORTH DAKOTA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

Home Mortgage Finance Program

ANNUAL INCOME LIMITS

(Effective February 27, 2004)

	HMFP Fai	mily Size	HomeKey Family Size		
County	Less than 3	3 or more	Less than 3	3 or more	
Burleigh, Cass, Mercer, Morton	\$ 60,600	\$ 69,690	\$ 30,300	\$ 34,845	
Grand Forks, Oliver, Ransom, Traill	54,300	62,445	27,150	31,223	
Richland	53,900	61,985	26,950	30,993	
All other Counties	52,700	60,605	26,350	30,303	

Includes projected income from all sources for the 12 months following the date of application.

ACQUISITION COST LIMITS

(Effective February 27, 2004)

	New Construction	Existing				
County	1 Unit	1 Unit	2 Units	3 Units	4 Units	
Statewide	\$ 189,600	\$ 189,600	\$ 242,800	\$ 293,400	\$ 364,700	

MORTGAGE LOAN INTEREST RATE

(Effective for reservations received on or after February 17, 2004)

	Monthly Payments	Rate	P&I Factor/ \$1,000 Loan	Maximum* Points/Fees	Purchase** Price
Option 1:	1 – 12	4.30%	4.9487	3.0	98.5%
	13 – 24	4.60%	5.1219		
	25 – 360	4.90%	5.2936		
Option 2:	1 – 360	4.70%	5.1864	3.0	98.5%
Option 3:	1 – 360	4.90%	5.3073	1.5	100.0%
HomeKey:	1 – 36	3.90%	4.7167	1.5	100.0%
	37 – 360	4.90%	5.2596		

^{*} No more than 1.5 charged to the borrower(s).
** Percentage used to calculate Committed Amount.

PARTICIPATING LENDERS

(As of February 2004)

Alerus Bank* American Federal Bank* American State Bank, Dickinson America's Home Loans* Bank Center First, Bismarck Bank of Glen Ullin Bank of Hamilton Bank of Minto Bank of Tioga **BNC National Bank*** Bremer Bank* Capital Credit Union, Bismarck Choice Financial Group* Citizens Community Credit Union, Devils Lake Citizens State Bank, Cavalier Community Bank of the Red River Valley Community First Mortgage* CountryBank USA* Dacotah Bank* Dakota Community Bank* Dakota West Credit Union, Watford City Dakota Western State Bank, Hettinger Farmers & Merchants Bank, Hatton Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Langdon Farmers & Merchants State Bank, Tolna Farmers Security Bank, Washburn Farmers State Bank Crosby First Community Credit Union* First International Bank & Trust* First Mortgage Service Inc., Fargo First National Bank & Trust. Bottineau First Security Bank - West, Beulah First Security Bank, Underwood First State Bank* First State Bank, Buffalo First State Bank Golva First State Bank Harvey First State Bank of LaMoure

First State Bank, Wilton First United Bank, Park River First Western Bank & Trust, Minot F-M Mortgage Corporation, Fargo Gate City Bank* Great Plains National Bank* Kirkwood Bank & Trust* Lakeside State Bank, New Town Lewis & Clark Community Works, Bismarck Liberty State Bank, Powers Lake McKenzie County Bank, Watford City ND Air National Guard Credit Union, Fargo Northland Educators Federal Credit Union, Fargo People's State Bank, Fairmount People's State Bank of Velva Postal Family Federal Credit Union, Fargo Ramsey National Bank & Trust of Devils Lake Real Estate Mortgage Investment, Bismarck Scandia American Bank, Stanley Security First Bank of ND* Security State Bank, Wishek St. Alexius Medical Center Credit Union, Bismarck Starion Financial* State Bank & Trust of Kenmare State Bank & Trust, Fargo State Bank of Lakota Strasburg State Bank Town & Country Credit Union* Union Bank, Beulah Union State Bank, Hazen United Community Bank of ND. Leeds United Savings Credit Union, Fargo US Bank* Valley Mortgage Inc., Fargo Wells Fargo Home Mortgage* Western Cooperative Credit Union* Western State Bank*

*Multiple Locations

